

Food and Drug Administration Washington DC 20204

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James C. Sartori President and CEO Sartori Food Corporation 107 Pleasant View Road P.O. Box 258 Plymouth, WI 53073

Re: Docket No. 99P-4648

Dear Mr. Sartori:

This is in response to your application to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for a temporary permit to market test, in interstate commerce, a product to be designated as Grated Parmesan Cheese that will deviate from the U.S. standards of identity for Parmesan cheese (21 CFR 133.165) and Grated cheeses (21 CFR 133.146) in that the curing period will be six months rather than ten months. In all other respects, the test product will conform to the standards for parmesan cheese and grated cheeses.

For the purposes of this permit, the name of the test product will be "Grated Parmesan Cheese." The information panel of the labels will bear nutrition labeling in accordance with 21 CFR 101.9.

Relying on the representations made in your application, we are hereby granting your request to make interstate shipments for test marketing purposes of 28 million pounds of grated parmesan cheese in 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 15, 18, 20, and 50 pound sizes. Finished labels must be submitted to the Branch Chief, Food Standards Branch, HFS-158, Division of Programs and Enforcement Policy, Office of Food Labeling, before the product is shipped in interstate commerce. The test product will be manufactured at 12 West Main, Plymouth, Wisconsin 53073, 2 East Main, Plymouth, Wisconsin 53703, and 9001 North Lander Avenue, Hilmar, California 95324. The product will be aged, grated, and packaged for distribution at 12 West Main, Plymouth, Wisconsin 53073 and 2 East Main, Plymouth, Wisconsin 53073. The product will be distributed by Sartori throughout the United States. Each of the ingredients used in the food must be declared on the labels as required by the applicable sections of 21 CFR part 101.

This permit will be effective for 15 months, beginning when the test product is introduced into interstate commerce, but not later than 90 days after notice of issuance of the permit is published

99P-4648

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Page 2 – James C. Sartori

in the <u>Federal Register</u>. You will notify FDA, in writing, of the date the 15-month period will begin, as soon as it is determined. While this permit is in effect, FDA will refrain from recommending regulatory action against shipments of "Grated Parmesan Cheese" covered by this permit on the grounds that the food fails to comply with 21 CFR 133.165 and 21 CFR 133.146.

Sincerely yours

Gerad L. McCowin

Acting Director

Office of Food Labeling Center for Food Safety

and Applied Nutrition